

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

**Listing of Claims:**

1-24 (Cancelled.)

25. (Currently Amended) A client for a software development system having a plurality of service providers, said service providers providing development services, comprising:

means for receiving commands from a user for executing development operations;  
an interface for communicating with compatible interfaces of all the plurality of service providers; and

an interface to a keyword processing subsystem, said keyword processing subsystem comprising a plurality of expanders for processing different sets of keywords and a keyword broker for selecting among the expanders.

26. (Original) The client of claim 25 further including means for accessing and processing a plurality of enumerators representing service providers available to the system.

27. (Original) The client of claim 25 further comprising an interface to a merge subsystem.

28. (Original) The client of claim 27 where the merge subsystem comprises:  
a plurality of preprocessors for receiving and modifying an input stream representing a plurality of input development documents;  
a merge engine for producing an output merge document from the input documents.

29. (Original) The client of claim 28 where the merge subsystem further comprises a merge broker for selecting one of the preprocessors.

30. (Original) The client of claim 28 where the merge subsystem further includes a plurality of postprocessors for processing the output merge document.

31-32 (Cancelled)

33. (Original) The client of claim 25 where at least some of the service providers also communicate with a version store for storing and retrieving development documents.

34-62 (Cancelled)

63. (Original) A method for developing software in a programmed digital computer, comprising:

receiving a request for keyword expansion in a development document; receiving a parameter specifying one of a plurality of keyword domains; selecting one of a plurality of keyword expanders in response to the parameter; expanding keywords in the document in the selected expander.

64. (Original) The method of claim 63 further comprising:  
determining that keyword expansion is required;  
selecting a generic keyword expander rather than any of the plurality of keyword expanders;  
expanding keywords in the document in the generic expander.

65. (Original) The method of claim 64 where the generic expander expands the keywords in accordance with the keyword-domain parameter.

66. (Original) A medium bearing representations of instructions and data for causing a suitably programmed computer to perform the method comprising:  
receiving a request for keyword expansion in a development document;  
receiving a parameter specifying one of a plurality of keyword domains;  
selecting one of a plurality of keyword-expansion service providers in response to the parameter;